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ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
PEABODY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

INCORPORATED AUGUST 15TH, 1896.

OFFICERS, 1906—1907.

President,	FRANCIS H. APPLETON
1st Vice President,	THOMAS CARROLL
2d Vice President,	JEFFERSON K. COLE
Treasurer,	SYLVANUS L. NEWHALL
Assistant Treasurer,	HELEN C. ALLEN
Recording Secretary,	MARY A. FORNESS
Corresponding Secretary,	MRS. ELIZABETH C. OSBORN
Curator,	MARY A. OSBORN
Librarian,	MRS. ELIZABETH C. OSBORN
Chairman Hospitality Com.,	MRS. H. MARIA PALMER

DIRECTORS.

DANIEL H. FELTON, ROBERT H. GOWING, P. H. O'CONOR,
MISS MARY W. NICHOLS, MRS. NANCY J. MOULTON, MARY ELIZ. POOLE,
RICHARDS B. MACKINTOSH, MRS. JOS. G. PORTER, REV. OSCAR F. SAFFORD,

DELEGATE TO THE BAY STATE LEAGUE.

REV. O. F. SAFFORD.

REGULAR MEETINGS 1906—1907.

1906.

- May 2. Annual meeting. Annual Reports and election of officers.
- Aug. 29. Annual Field meeting at Felton's Corner, the home of Mr. D. H. Felton being open to all. The meeting was held on the triangle, Gen. Francis Henry Appleton, Pres., presiding. The first speaker, Mr. Daniel H. Felton, spoke on the "Early Settlers" in that locality, of the "River-head," the old wharf, the clay pits, the Felton School, the Old Indian Pound and the Andover Turnpike. Mr. Ezra D. Hines of Danvers, next gave the history of the Collins House, not far away, the headquarters of Gen. Gage at the beginning of the Revolution, 1774. Mr. Thomas Carroll then related the incident of Arnold's Army marching thru County, Summit, Lowell and Prospect and Sylvan streets, then called the old

Ipswich Road, on its way to Quebec in 1775. Deacon Chas. Whipple of Pike & Whipple, gave an interesting account of his Carriage business, carried on since 1830, in the vicinity; the original building being on the triangle and burned in 1853.

Rev. O. F. Safford called attention to the fact that until 1855, Felton's Corner was the real center of the town of Danvers, the first school and the home of the first town clerk having been nearby. Gen. Appleton as Massachusetts Commissioner for the Jamestown Exposition made timely remarks in regard to the same.

President Appleton spoke of the great loss the Society had sustained in the death of Mr. Nathaniel Symonds, one of its most interested members.

Refreshments were then served by Mrs. Maria H. Palmer, chairman of Hospitality Committee, and assistants, and the company adjourned to visit Mr. Felton's Home, the Felton Burial Ground, the Felton School House and the River Head.

- Nov. 20. President Francis Henry Appleton gave a most interesting talk upon the Jamestown Exposition, illustrated with lantern slides, showing views of buildings complete and in process of construction, the wonderful wall of flowers surrounding the enclosure, and many places of historical interest in Virginia. This was much enjoyed as at that time comparatively little was known about the Exposition.

At the close of the lecture, remarks were made along the same lines by Mr. Arthur Lord, President of Plymouth Historical Society, and by Hon. Dana Malone, Attorney General, who spoke of the Deerfield Historical Society.

- Feb. 18. A meeting in commemoration of the birthday of George Peabody was held, Vice-President Thomas Carroll presiding and making the first address, speaking of Mr. Peabody in connection with the Peabody High school.

Mr. Fred W. Bushby followed, speaking of the purchase of three autograph letters of George Peabody by the Peabody Institute, also of his search in London for the Peabody Building and the Peabody Tablet in Westminster Abbey.

Miss Mary M. Farley gave the genealogy of the Birthplace of George Peabody.

Mrs. Joseph G. Porter read an interesting letter written by George Peabody to John W. Proctor of this town.

Mr. Andrew Nichols of Danvers gave some personal reminiscences of Mr. Peabody and supplemented Miss Farley's paper with some quotations from the Records.

Mrs. Lyman P. Osborn read an entertaining account of the celebration of 1856 in honor of George Peabody.

Miss Mary W. Nichols of Danvers read a short poem written by her father, the late Dr. Nichols, for the celebration of 1856.

Mrs. Lydia W. Thacher gave some personal recollections of Mr. Peabody and the celebration of 1856.

Mr. Otis Brown spoke of some incidents of the reception reception of the body of George Peabody in Portland, in which he and others of this town had a part.

Light refreshments followed adjournment.



FIRST HIGH SCHOOL, PEABODY MASS., 1850-1855.
FORMERLY CHAPEL OF UNITARIAN CHURCH ON CHURCH ST. NOW REMOVED TO NO. 268 WASHINGTON ST.
PHOTOGRAPHED BY MR. W. W. WOODMAN, PRESENT PRINCIPAL OF HIGH SCHOOL.



"PEABODY" HIGH SCHOOL, PEABODY, MASS—1855-1903.
AND TOWN HALL ON STEVEN'S STREET—1855-1883.
PHOTOGRAPHED BY MR. W. W. WOODMAN, PRESENT PRINCIPAL OF THE HIGH SCHOOL.

Apr. 19. The graves of the Revolutionary Soldiers were decorated with flags as usual and laurel wreaths placed upon the monument. Our Society was represented at the meeting of the Bay State Historical League, at Hyde Park, in the afternoon, by Dr. Safford, Miss M. A. Forness and Mrs. L. P. Osborn, who read a paper. The Rooms of the local Society were open to visitors during the afternoon and in the evening a meeting was held at which Mr. Carroll presided and gave a most interesting talk upon the battle of Lexington and the part taken in it by our men from Danvers. Capt. Wm. F. Wiley spoke of the 19th of April in our Civil war and of the battle of Newbern in an extremely interesting way, especially appreciated by those members who had shared the experiences. After the reading of a poem on Our Flag by Mr. Jefferson K. Cole, the evening closed with the usual light refreshments.

NEW MEMBERS.

Nov. 20, 1906.

How. Benj. G. Hall,
Mrs. Hannah G. Hall,
S. Chase Tucker, M. D.,
Miss Isabella A. Ward,

Feb. 18, 1907.

Mrs. Florence L. Ward,
Miss Sarah S. Moore,
Mr. Edw. P. Hamblet,
Mrs. C. Isabel Hamblet.

May 8, 1907.

Miss Alice M. Patterson, M. D.,
Mrs. Marcia M. Osgood.

Mr. Harry O. Gsgood,

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer of the Peabody Historical Society respectfully submits the following report for the year ending May 1, 1907.

Balance in hands of Treasurer at last report, . . .	\$120.57
Received for Admission and Dues, . . .	130.50
Gifts from members of the Society, . . .	15.00
Candle Sale, . . .	6.18
Interest from Stimpson Fund, . . .	19.50
Interest from Deposit in Warren F. C. S. Bank, . . .	3.28
From Library at Washington, . . .	3.00
From Sale of Post Cards, . . .	75.27
	<hr/> \$373.30
Paid rent for one year to April 1, 1907, . . .	\$150.00
Electric Light for one year, . . .	6.53
Decorating Lexington Monument April 19, 1906, . . .	5.00
Annual Dues to Bay State League, . . .	1.00
2 Doz. Flags for Graves of Revolutionary Soldiers, . . .	1.50
Wreath for Funeral of Dr. Putnam, . . .	3.00
Insurance, . . .	12.50
Mrs. Brooks and F. S. Edgerly & Son for refreshments for Sept., Feb. and April meetings, . . .	3.95
Expressing Chairs for Sept. meeting, . . .	1.50
Printing Ballots, . . .	1.50
300 Copies Annual Report, . . .	16.00
Printing Post Cards, . . .	19.40
Envelopes, Postals, Stamps, etc., for the Secretaries and Treasurers, . . .	4.21
Balance in hands of Treasurer, . . .	147.21
	<hr/> \$373.30

S. L. NEWHALL, Treas.

PEABODY, May 1, 1907.

NECROLOGY.

Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Conrey,	b. Oct. 31, 1833,	d. Oct. 30, 1906
Miss Susanna Mills,	b. May 2, 1810,	d. May 19, 1906
Nicolas M. Quint,	b. July 18, 1838,	d. Oct. 29, 1906
Benj. F. Southwick,	b. July 5, 1835,	d. Oct. 11, 1906
Nathaniel Symonds,	b. Dec. 13, 1833,	d. Aug. 29, 1906
Mrs. Adelaide M. Tigh,	b. Oct. 4, 1840,	d. Nov. 5, 1906

REPORT OF CURATOR AND LIBRARIAN.

During the past year, our gifts from 26 members and 30 friends have as usual included bound volumes, pamphlets, manuscript papers, newspapers, clippings, articles for the cabinet and room, and photographs and money for post card plates. Among these special mention might be made of a cane, made of wood from the Chamber of Burgesses, where Patrick Henry made his still remembered speech, a most timely offering of Mr. Thomas Carroll, when interest was centered on the Jamestown Exposition. Also, an old Powder Horn, a relic of 1756 and 1757, with a rare etching upon it of Ft. William Henry where Lieut. Eleazer Lindsey and others from this town were stationed. This was the gift of the late Mr. Alerson Galeucia.

The "Parson Prescott" chair is of interest, being the original inspiration of the founding of our society. This was willed to the society by Miss Mills, in whose home it had been many years, and where, many times, as a descendant of Mr. Prescott, Senator Hoar came to call and occupy the chair. It was for the purpose of making a home in town for this chair that the suggestion of an Historical Society was first made by Miss Mills. We have been honored by the Peabody Museum of Science by an invitation to loan our large buffalo skin with an Indian battle scene upon it, painted in black and blue and red, by the Indians. With the consent of the donor, Mr. D. H. Felton, this was removed and may be seen in its appropriate place in Salem.

The Society room has been open as usual every Monday afternoon from 2.30 to 5 o'clock, with members of the following committee in attendance: Mrs. Nancy J. Moulton, Miss Helen C. Allen, Miss Mary A. Osborn, Mrs. John Shanahan, Mrs. J. G. Porter, Mrs. J. J. Thorndike, Mrs. L. P. Osborn. Occasional teas have been served, and on one afternoon bayberry candles were made at the room and a sale of the candles, wax, berries, etc., was held, while the process of candle making by Miss Caroline M. Mudge of Danvers, proved most entertaining.

Classes from the public schools have made several visits to the room and the practical use of the treasures in our custody is gradually winning appreciation. Acknowledgment for photographs for new postals, is due Mrs. A. L. Newhall and Mrs. George H. Green, So. Peabody; Mrs. A. L. Arvedson, West Peabody; Miss Isabella A. Ward, Mr. Fred Hagar, Gen. F. H. Appleton, Mr. W. W. Woodman and "Mikado," Program committee, for benefit of J. B. Thomas Hospital.

Grateful acknowledgment is due contributors of the following items relating to George Peabody and our High school and it is hoped that all missing links may be furnished by our interested friends.

GIFT	AUTHOR	DONOR
1788, '93, '95. Deeds relating to homes of Thomas Peabody in Haverhill and Danvers now Peabody.	Copied by A. Nichols.	Andrew Nichols.

GIFT	AUTHOR	DONOR
1795, Feb. 18. Birthplace of George Peabody. Its genealogy.	{ Andrew Nichols { Miss Mary M. Farley.	{ Andrew Nichols. { Miss Mary M. Farley.
1852, June 16. Centennial Celebration of Danvers and Founding of Peabody Institute. Tickets to exercises of. Peabody Institute Library Bookplates. Peabody Institute Library Certificate. Peabody Institute Card Lists of Lectures. (incomplete.)		Lyman P. Osborn. Lyman P. Osborn. Mrs. M. O. Stevens.
1856, Oct. 9. Peabody Reception and Dinner Badges. Peabody Reception and Dinner Songs. Peabody Reception. Poster or Chief Marshal's notice of. Engraving of Peabody Institute.	{ Miss Geo. A. Osborne { Mrs. Joel R. Peabody.	{ Mrs. M. S. Buxton, { Charles O. Warner. Miss Susanna Mills.
1857, Aug. 13. Peabody Picnic, acc. of in newspaper clipping. Peabody Picnic Poster. Peabody Reception at Mrs. Eben Sutton's. Invitation to.		{ Mrs. Pickering Hart. { Miss Alice E. Trask. Horace Merrill.
1857-8. Framed Photo of Bust of George Peabody by	F. S. Jones.	Lyman P. Osborn. Mrs. E. C. Osborn.
1857. Sketch of Sylvester Proctor's Drug Store, where George Peabody first worked.	Elbridge G. Perley.	Mrs. Lydia W. Thacher
1857-8. Framed Photo of George Peabody from Daguerreotype.		Mrs. Lyman Osborn.
1866, Sept. 22. Queen Victoria's letter to Geo. Peabody. Facsimile of		Miss Florence Torr.
1867. "Peabody" Coat-of-Arms label, used by Naumkeag Mills, Newburyport.		Peabody Institute. Lyman C. Osborn.

GIFT	AUTHOR	DONOR
1867, Feb. 13. South Danvers Wizard with George Peabody's letter concerning the Southern Fund.		Mrs. Lucy A. Davis.
1868. Card Photograph of George Peabody.		Mrs. S. L. Ferguson.
1869. Framed Engraving of photograph taken by	Mayall, of London.	Veteran Fire Association
1869, Dec. 18. George Peabody's Funeral in London, acc. of in Harper's Weekly.		Charles O. Warner.
1870, Jan. 14. Description of Preparations in Portsmouth for arrival of George Peabody's body. Clipping.		Lyman P. Osborn.
1870, Feb. 5. Broadside with account of George Peabody's Funeral.		Harry O. Osgood.
1870, Feb. 5-9. Peabody Press with account of George Peabody's Funeral.		Mr. Merritt Cook.
1870, Feb. 8. Program of Funeral Service at South Church. Invitations to Funeral Exercises and to Collation at Institute.		Miss Alice E. Trask. Charles O. Warner. Miss Adaline A. Little. Mr. J. Henry Osgood. Miss Alice E. Trask.
Notice to Marshalls.		Charles O. Warner.
Mourning Rosette and Baton.		Sylvanus L. Newhall.
Photographs of Catalogue in Institute.		
1871, Feb. 18. Peabody's 14th Annual Birthday Social Festival. Prog.		Miss Mary M. Farley.
1895, Feb. 16. Peabody Press with Sketch of George Peabody.		{ Miss Adaline A. Little. { Mrs. M. O. Stevens.
1895, Feb. 18. George Peabody Centennial Cel. Badge, white.		Lyman P. Osborn.
George Peabody Centennial Cel. Badge, Blue.		Frank L. Ferguson.
George Peabody Centennial Cel., List of Committees.		Lyman P. Osborn.



TOWN OF PEABODY, 1906 WHEN COVERED WITH SNOW.
PHOTOGRAPHED BY FRED D. HAGAR.



House No. 31 Elm St., removed from 35 Main St., (now occupied by Mr. Daniel P. Grosvenor) formerly Drug Store of Sylvester Proctor, where George Peabody first went to work, 1806, at age of eleven.

Photographed by George W. Hersey.

The Rooms of the Society have been open as usual to visitors, every Monday afternoon from 2.30 till 5 o'clock, with members of the following committee in attendance:—

Miss Helen C. Allen, Mrs. John Moulton, Mrs. L. P. Osborn, Miss Mary A. Osborn, Mrs. J. Benj. Palmer, Mrs. John Shanahan, Mrs. J. J. Thorndike, Mrs. J. G. Porter.

The following pamphlets are for sale by the Society, the rooms being open to the public every Monday afternoon:—

"The Home of John Proctor" by William P. Upham, - - .25

"Dedication of Memorial Tablet at Birthplace of George Peabody," .25

A folded sheet containing a list of some places of Historic Interest in our town, - - - - - .05

Postal Cards with local views, - - - - - .03 each, or two for .05

Photographs of local views, - - - - - .10, .15, .25, .35, .50

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| 1. Peabody Institute. | 20. Crystal or Upham's Pond, West Peabody. |
| 2. George Peabody's Birthplace. | 21. "Phelp's Mill," West Peabody. |
| 3. Queen Victoria's Picture in Peabody Institute. | 22. Home for Aged Women. |
| 4. Town Hall. | 23. Cattle Show. |
| 5. High School. | 24. Unitarian Church. |
| 6. Soldiers' Monument and "Old South Church." | 25. Burial Place of George Peabody. |
| 7. Lexington Monument. | 26. Parson Prescott House, Central Street. |
| 8. John Proctor Memorial. | 27. Peabody Square in 1902. |
| 9. Old Proctor House. | 28. Peabody Square in 1905. |
| 10. Ship Rock. | 29. Wilson Square in 1902. |
| 11. "Bowditch House." | 30. Wilson Square in 1906. |
| 12. Osborn House. | 31. Triangle at Felton's corner. |
| 13. Apple Tree Lane, Osborn Farm. | 32. Buxton's Hill in 1905. |
| 14. Peabody from Buxton's Hill. | 33. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 1906. |
| 15. Catholic Church and Parochial Residence. | 34. George Peabody, 1869. |
| 16. Convent, Parochial School and Parochial Residence. | 35. Tablet. |
| 17. Chestnut Street and Town House. | 36. Westminster Abbey. |
| 18. Elm Street and Entrance to Monumental Cemetery. | 37. View of Peabody from Methodist Church. |
| 19. Residence of Lewis Brown, South Peabody. | 38. Peabody Square, cor. Foster St. |
| | 39. Main Street, looking west from Caller. |
| | 40. Church and Schoolhouse, West Peabody. |

In 1901, a committee was appointed to copy the Burial Ground Incriptions and Bible Records, throughout the town. The following was contributed by Mr. Sylvanus L. Newhall.

The Curtis-Very Burial Lot and Stone Tomb may be found in a small enclosure on Lynn street, near Lynn street court, about one and one-half miles from Peabody square. The stones are of slate; the decoration, a weeping willow. The tomb was built by Mrs. Esther, wife of Daniel Stone, Jr., and daughter of Amos and Sally Very. Other particulars concerning those interred here may be found at the Rooms of the Historical Society, and any information regarding them will be gratefully received.



CURTIS—VERY LOT AND STONE TOMB.

IN Memory of
MR AMOS CURTIS,
who died
May 13, 1828,
aged 74 years.

IN MEMORY OF
MRS MARY RUSSELL,
Relict of
MR ANDREW RUSSELL,
who died
Sept. 24, 1837,
Aged 63.

SACRED
To the Memory of
MRS BETSEY CURTIS
relict of
MR AMOS CURTIS,
who died
Feb. 21, 1833,
Aged 74 years.

AMOS VERY,
Aged 73.
SALLY VERY,
Aged 82.
May They Rest In Peace.

IN TOMB.

SAMUEL W. FERRIN,
ESTHER ELIZA STONE,
JOSEPH W. STONE,
GEORGE W. K. STONE,

Died Jan. 2, 1863, aged 24 years, 11 mos
Died Apr. 20, 1839, aged 4 years
Died Apr. 25, 1839, aged 2 years
Died Sept. 23, 1858, aged 53 years

GIFT	AUTHOR	DONOR
George Peabody Centennial Cel. Menu.		Miss E. C. Kimball.
George Peabody Centennial Cel., Order of Dances.		Adaline A. Little.
George Peabody Centennial Cel., Program of Exercises.		Lyman P. Osborn.
George Peabody Centennial Cel., Program of School Celebration.		Adaline A. Little.
George Peabody Centennial Cel., Ticket to Banquet.		Lyman P. Osborn.
1901, Feb. 2. Accession of Edward VII. London Ill. News.		Mrs. J. G. Porter.
1901, Feb. 7. Funeral of Queen Victoria in London, Ill. News.		Mrs. J. G. Porter.
1901, Feb. 9. Funeral of Queen Victoria in London, Sphere.		Mrs. J. G. Porter.
1902. Deed of right to Peabody Historical Society to maintain marker at Birthplace of George Peabody.		Charles B. Farley.
1850, June 3. Peabody High School opened with 40 pupils and was named for George Peabody.		
1858, March 11. Annual Report to Town and Order of Exercises at Examination of Peabody High School.		Mrs. Alice B. Lummus.
1862, July 22. Challenge by boys of P. H. S. to the Female Base Ball Players.		Harry O. Osgood.
1864, March 28. Order of Exercises at Exhibition of P. H. S.		Harry O. Osgood.
1866, Nov. 10. P. H. S. Asso. "Constitution."		Harry O. Osgood.
1867, Feb. 18. P. H. S. Asso. 1st Annual Reunion. George Peabody present.		
Ode.	Miss Sarah E. Perkins, '60	{ Chas. Bancroft { Harry O. Osgood.

GIFT	AUTHOR	DONOR
1868, Feb. 18. P. H. S. Asso. 2nd Annual Re- union. Ode. Poem.	Miss Sarah J. Smith, '57 Miss Sarah E. Perkins, '60	Harry O. Osgood.
1869, Feb. 18. P. H. S. Asso. 3rd Annual re- union. Ode. Ode.	Miss Sarah E. Perkins, '60 Miss H. F. Osborne, '62	Harry O. Osgood.
1876, Feb. 18. P. H. S. Asso. Reunion. Poem. Ode.	Miss Martha O. Barrett Miss Carrie W. Bomer.	Harry O. Osgood.
1878, Feb. 18. P. H. S. Asso. Reunion. Ode. Poem.	Miss Susie Felton. Miss Grace Goodrich.	Harry O. Osgood.
1879, Apr. May, June. P. H. S. Newspaper "The Review," vol. 1. 1, 2 and 3.		Charles C. Hills.
1892, Oct. 21. Columbus Day P. H. S. Badge.		Frank L. Ferguson.
1895, June 26. P. H. S. Alumni Asso. First Annual Reunion. Song.	Miss S. J. C. Needham.	Harry O. Osgood. Lyman P. Osborn.
1897, June 15. Invita- tion to Reunion.		Lyman P. Osborn.
1898. P. H. S. A. A. "Constitution and By- laws."		Harry O. Osgood.
1898, Feb. 18. P. H. S. A. A. 4th Annual Re- union. Ode.	Harry O. Osgood.	Harry O. Osgood.
1900, June 1. P. H. S. 50th Anni. Alumni As- sociation Reunion.		E. C. Osborn.
1902, June 26. P. H. S. Graduation Exercises. Ode.	Frank Augustus Ferrin.	E. C. Osborn.
1904. P. H. S. Gradua- tion Exercises. Song.	Mary Eliza. Osgood.	E. C. Osborn.
1906. P. H. S. Gradua- tion Exercises. Ode.	Marguerite Bott.	E. C. Osborn.

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| | 39. Main Street, looking west from Caller. |
| | 40. Church and Schoolhouse, West Peabody. |

THE STORY OF OUR HIGH SCHOOL.

BY MR. THOMAS CARROLL.

In 1849 the number of inhabitants in the town of Danvers was a little over six thousand. Early in the year a prominent citizen, John W. Procter, threatened to have the town indicted for not supporting a high school. At the second adjournment of annual Town meeting, held in Granite Hall, North Parish, April 2, 1849—the school committee were instructed to consider the matter of establishing two High schools and report at the next annual meeting.

April 1, 1850—Second adjournment of annual meeting held in Union Hall, South Parish. Report of the committee having been printed and circulated was brought before the meeting.

April 8, 1850—Town voted to establish two high schools, one in the North and one in the South Parish. Appropriation of \$4.50 per pupil was made; \$3.50 of same to be paid to Districts, and balance used for High schools.

We are concerned particularly with the High school in this section of the town which opened June 7, 1850, in a small, one story building, in the rear of the Unitarian church, which had been used by the church as a chapel or vestry.

There was only one door in the building, for ingress and egress. There were a couple of closets, near the teachers' platform, for storing the few pieces of physical and chemical apparatus belonging to the school. There were no recitation rooms and lessons were heard in sight and hearing of all the pupils. There was seating capacity for forty-three scholars and about twenty-five attended the first year. The first teacher was Eugene B. Hinckley, a native of New Brunswick, Maine, who had recently graduated from Bowdoin College, in his own town. He was a man of distinguished appearance, dignified and athletic. There was an air of lofty austerity about him, which made him feared by the wrong doer, but to those who tried to walk in the straight way, he was kind, sympathetic and helpful.

It seems incredible now that one person could teach so many branches of study every day, with no assistance. There was no evasion of a lesson at any time. Every task had to be done and done right. There were two sessions a day: 9 to 12 in the morning—1.30 to 4.30 in the afternoon. The experiments in chemistry and physics were performed in the presence of the whole school. The boy in the Latin reader got the swing of Virgil from hearing the older scholars recite, and his ear was familiar with the potency of x and the square of the hypothenuse long before he took up Algebra and Geometry. Every book in the *Aeneid* was read and the study of Virgil began with the Georgics. Every fortnight the boys declaimed some standard piece from the platform, the girls reciting a poetical selection in the intervening week.

On nearly every Saturday morning the whole school had a reading lesson. Each scholar stood up in turn and read a paragraph from a standard reader, the books were put away, words from the lesson given out and written down on slates by the whole school. The slates were then exchanged, the first scholar in line spelled a word from his neighbor's slate, gave the definition and so on until the lesson was over.

In the winter of 1854, the High schools of the South and North Parishes met together for the first time. The meeting was held in the vestry of the South Church, on the Square, and the occasion was to receive the announcement of the gift of George Peabody to the two schools, whereby the most worthy scholars were to receive prizes or medals at the time of their gradu-

ation. The gathering was a pleasant one, the letter from Mr. Peabody was read by a Mr. Sylvester of the North Parish, speeches were made and an ode, written by Mrs. George A. Osborne, was sung to the tune of Auld Lang Syne.

March 6, 1854, at a Town meeting held in Union Hall, was an article in the warrant "to see if the town will build two high schoolhouses," referred to committee.

March 20, 1854, the Town voted to appropriate \$12,000 to build two schoolhouses for the "Peabody" and "Holt" High schools.

A building committee was chosen as follows: Henry Cook, Lewis Allen, Joseph Poor, Edward T. Waldron, Adino Page, Nathan Tapley, Joseph Mudge.

April 10, 1854, additional appropriation of \$7,000 was made, the buildings to be constructed so as to provide for town purposes. Five members were added to the building committee: Francis Dane, Dr. George Osborne, Isaac Hardy, Jr., Elijah W. Upton, Alonzo P. Phillips.

At a special meeting held June 12, 1854, \$3,000 additional was appropriated.

It seems singular now in the light of these proceedings that before the buildings here voted for were ready to be occupied, the old town should be rent in twain and each of the two parts have a new High schoolhouse and a Town house combined, ready for occupancy after the parting of the ways. The population in this part of the town had increased more rapidly than in the northern part. We were fast becoming a manufacturing community, while they were mainly agricultural. The statement was made that we ceased to have longer any common interests and that each part would be benefited by division. The majority in the North parish were opposed to division while in this part the majority favored it. The contest was fought with great feeling, approaching to vehemence, but there was no bitterness after it was over, for in the very next year, 1856, the two communities united in the most harmonious and enthusiastic manner in giving George Peabody a royal welcome, on his first visit to his native town.

One of the strongest arguments for division was the fact of two high schools in one town—miles apart. The act of incorporation of the Town of South Danvers was passed May 18, 1855. It was agreed that surplus revenues of the town of Danvers be divided pro rata between the children from 5 to 15 years of age.

Before the new building was ready for occupancy, Mr. Hinckley resigned his position as master of the high school, to the great regret of the people. His five years of teaching was confined to the little building where the school was started, but he left his impress on the community, an impress that time has not effaced.

J. W. Coleord was the first master of the new high school, and he was succeeded by C. L. Cushman. Robert E. Babson was the next principal, and after him came V. H. Dean. William L. Thompson taught during a part of the civil war, and Albert C. Perkins came after him. Next in succession came Isaac N. Carleton and Henry Dame, to be succeeded by Byron Groce, who taught with success for several years. James N. Ham is remembered here as a strong and efficient schoolmaster, whose term of service was among the longest of any. J. Y. Bergen, jr., was a finely equipped teacher and he was followed by Charles A. Holbrook. Next in order of teaching was John M. Nichols, whose faithful work is not forgotten. When Mr. Nichols resigned the committee elected W. W. Woodman, who, fortunately for the town and the school, is still with us, enjoying the distinction of teaching in the old school and the new and doing good work in both.

As the town grew in importance and population, the number of scholars in the high school increased in proportion. In 1883 the new town hall was built and the lower floor of the high school building, heretofore used for



"PEABODY" HIGH SCHOOL, CENTRAL ST., PEABODY, MASS., 1903.
PHOTOGRAPHED BY GEORGE W. HERSEY.



PEABODY TOWN HALL, LOWELL STREET, PEABODY, MASS., 1883.

DONATED BY GEORGE H. JACOBS.

town purposes, was given over for the use of the school. Some years later the building was enlarged, but even this failed to accommodate the influx of pupils desirous of getting a high school education. The main room was crowded and every class room was overflowing. The school committee repeatedly called the attention of the town to the necessity of a new house with greater accommodations, and this movement grew, until the matter was brought before the town in March, 1901, when the committee was appointed to consider the question of a new high school house. In the following year the same committee was authorized to buy a suitable piece of land, erect a building thereon and furnish it; and the sum of \$95,000 was placed at the disposal of the committee to carry out the wishes of the town, to be increased two years later by an additional \$10,000, so that the undertaking might be entirely complete.

One of the pleasantest things which the committee have to dwell upon, is—that they did not overrun their appropriation. On the contrary they had a handsome balance which they used in grading the grounds, laying out walks and fencing the lot.

Public announcement was made that the building would be open for inspection on the afternoon of Thursday, September 1, and that in the evening, in the assembly hall, it would be turned over to the town authorities. The ceremony was simple, yet not lacking in dignity. The beautiful hall was filled with an interested audience who had previously visited every room from the basement below to the laboratories above. On the platform were the board of selectmen, the school committee, the building committee and the architect. Thomas Carroll, acting chairman, introduced Hon. Amos Merrill as the representative of the committee for the occasion. The long and honorable career of Mr. Merrill, his valued services to the town in the discharge of his duty in many positions of honor and trust, and the interest he had always taken in the schools made it eminently appropriate that he should be their spokesman in this affair. Mr. Merrill gave a brief statement of the work of the committee up to that time, and presented the keys of the building to Andrew N. Jacobs, chairman of the selectmen, who, after a speech of acceptance, delivered them to John J. Cahill, chairman of the school committee. Mr. Cahill made a neat response and the building was then in the hands of legitimate custodians.

The following quotation may be found in the report of the School Committee of Danvers for 1854.

LONDON, Nov. 30, 1853.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE "HOLTON" AND "PEABODY" HIGH SCHOOLS:

GENTLEMEN:—In acknowledging the compliment paid me by giving my name to the High School of the South Parish in Danvers, it is my wish to confer on the schools over which you preside some more substantial benefit than appertains to a name.

I will transmit to you in the autumn of 1854 the sum of two hundred dollars, and I will continue to send the same amount annually (provided the result shall be satisfactory), during my life, to be expended in prizes for distribution as rewards of merit to the pupils at their yearly examination.

Very respectfully and truly yours,

GEORGE PEABODY."

"Aug. 5, 1867, Mr. Peabody established a fund of \$2,000 for medals 'to replace his annual gift of \$200.'—[See 'The Peabody Institute' in 'George Peabody Centennial Celebration,' p. 77, compiled by Gen. Francis H. Appleton.

The medals were first given to the graduates of 1855 whose names may be found in the Reports of the School Committee for 1855 and 1856.

In the Report of 1868 we find "The Trustees of the Institute have the committee's thanks for so readily co-operating with them in giving the Institute for the occasion (graduation exercises)."

There is an appropriateness, too, in distributing the Peabody silver under a Peabody roof, and, as it were, in the donor's bodily presence.

Additional interest attended the recent distribution of medals from the fact that the first impressions from the new dies were used. The old dies having become injured, it was found necessary to procure a new form. We are happy to report that the new model bears a favorable comparison with the old.

Invitations have been received for and delegates have attended the following meetings:

1906.

- Jan. 2. Annual meeting of the "Bay State Historical League" at Ipswich. Of this "League" our Society is a member and Dr. O. F. Safford is our delegate and a member of the Board of Directors.
- June 12. Annual meeting of the "Haverhill Historical Society."
- July 18. Field meeting of the "Essex Institute," at Langsford's Grove, Lanesville.
- Nov. 24. "Bay State Historical League" meeting at Medford.
- Dec. 28. A session of the "American Historical Association" in Manning's Hall, Brown University, Providence, at the 22nd annual meeting.

1907.

- Mar. 27. Old Planters' Society. Annual meeting in Salem.
- April 19. "Bay State Historical League" meeting at Hyde Park.



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